Bus journey and Bible study disaster (Thursday 13th June 2024)

Characters (in order of appearance)

Narrator (Will Manning - His full name is unknown)

Grandma (Felicia Adhikari - Dad's mother, Mom's mother-in-law and Arimyriah and Arigbeniri's grandmother)

Mom (Taryn Adhikari - Arimyriah and Arigbeniri's mother)

Mr Robert Carter Jr. (Taylor and Flora's stepfather)

Ethan (Taxi Driver)

Arigbeniri (Arimyriah's younger brother) (happy, resourceful, respectful but can be a bit mischievous - has black semi-afro hair, red skin and brown eyes and wears a pair of small red rectangular-rimmed glasses on his head and wears a red school sweatshirt, a white short-sleeved polo shirt, grey trousers, grey socks and black school shoes subsequently a black leather jacket, a green long-sleeved shirt, khaki trousers, grey computer socks and tank brown trainers)

Arimyriah (Arigbeniri's older sister) (creative, likes to produce different foods, likes the Greater London region and its buses with the bright red livery a lot but can be quite naughty and throw tantrums when she does not get her way - has black hair matted into medium-sized twists with multicolored beads, red skin and brown eyes and wears a red school cardigan, a pink and white checked summer dress with buttons, white socks and black school shoes subsequently a pink jacket, a dark pink long-sleeved shirt with white spots, pink trousers, light pink socks and pink trainers)

Mrs Karin Newington (Mother of Tyler and Ginger and stepmother of Harry and Rene)

Tyler (Ginger's older brother and Harry and Rene's older stepbrother)

Ginger (Tyler's younger sister and Harry and Rene's older stepsister)

Harry (Tyler and Ginger's younger stepbrother and Rene's older brother)

Rene (Tyler and Ginger's younger stepsister and Harry's younger sister)

Mr Odedara (Philip, William and Ruth's father - his forename is unknown)

Mrs Odedara (Philip, William and Ruth's mother - her forename is unknown)

Ruth (Oldest child of the Odedaras and the only daughter)

William (Middle child of the Odedaras)

Philip (Youngest child of the Odedaras)

The sentences in red and brackets are for the audio describer

Narrator: The teen half Indian, half Nigerian heritage teen Arigbeniri Adhikari had just arrived from school on Friday afternoon at 16:00. Thursday was their favorite day because they were gonna Philip, William and Ruth's house at South Nuneaton for Bible study, and they were goin' on the bus. They really could not wait!

(Arigbeniri comes out of their school cab and Mom comes and escorts them to the maisonette)

Arigbeniri: This is my favorite day because we get to go to Bible Study and for once, we are takin' the bus!

Mom (she shuts the door to the outside): It ain't the very first time ya took a bus to that place. And I cannot come with ya.

Arimyriah (curious): Why can't ya come with us Mom?

Arigbeniri (more curious): Yes, why not?

Mom: Dad will be comin' back from Northern Ireland tomorrow and I wanna surprise him with a greetin' card, and I need to send an electronic e-mail to my sister on the computer.

Narrator: He and Arimyriah then met Grandma who was knittin' a new scarf for one of her grandchildren, Rochelle who was makin' a dress for one of her Oceanian friends and Mr Carter who was watchin' Bee and Puppycat on YouTube.

The Adhikari siblings: Can Grandma take us instead of you?

Grandma (takes off her glasses, rolls her grey eyes anxiously then answers the siblings): Of course I cannot take you; I am at a fair age to be takin' people out. I am very frail so I cannot take ya to South Nuneaton.

The Adhikari siblings: (curious): Who will take us then, if both of ya cannot take us, who will? Will ya be able to take us Miss Rochelle?

Rochelle: Let's talk about the journey arrangements when my children arrive home from school. By the way, I will not be able to take ya, because it is my South African friend's birthday tomorrow, and I am makin' a dress as a present to post to her.

Mr Carter: But for now, ya can watch some television. I know ya would wanna watch it now, especially ya Arimyriah, particularly because I heard that ya were protestin' that ur Virgin Media box had just the free channels, and so was ur brother and ya were fed up of watchin' them day in and day out, ya were also fed up of missing ur favorite shows. Ya were also protestin' that ya could not watch unlimited episodes of Peppa Pig and Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom, and other Nick Jr shows and every time ya protested, ya got overlooked by ur parents, especially ur Dad, who I heard is leavin' Northern Ireland today and comin' back tomorrow night. You, Arigbeniri, were protestin' that ya could not watch unlimited SpongeBob SquarePants episodes anywhere more than on YouTube and on DVD, and ya wanted to watch that alongside some other Nicktoons shows. Because of this, I signed up for NowTV back on October 13th 2022 when I came to ur house from my hotel in Holiday Inn in Wigston on Monday mornin' (ya, Arigbeniri was at school at the time). Now what would ya like to watch mixed-raced siblings?

Arimyriah: I would like to watch Nick Jr..

Arigbeniri: No, I would like to watch Nicktoons.

(Mr Carter gets confused so he counts to ten and then muses)

Mr Carter: Arigbeniri, because ur sister asked first, she is gonna watch the channel she asked for first for 15 minutes, then ya can watch the channel ya asked for, for 15 minutes.

(Mr Carter lends Arimyriah the Hisense remote and she goes to 'Now TV', scrolls right to the 'Kids' section, and scrolls down until she finds her desired channel Nick Jr.

Arimyriah (with bliss): I really like watchin' the pay channel, as well as the free-to-air channels. I would like to watch other kids channels apart from iconic free-to-air channels that are CBeebies, CBBC, Tiny Pop, Pop, and Pop Max.

Narrator: Arimyriah was watchin' Nick Jr. on Sky Channel 615 for 15 minutes. Then, she gave the remote to her brother so he could watch Nicktoons on Sky Channel 606 for 15 minutes.

Arigbeniri (with bliss): They're not showin' SpongeBob, but at least I am watchin' my favorite pay channel Nicktoons.

Adhikari siblings: Let's get changed. (They scramble to the smaller bedroom, but Mr Carter calls them all back to the livin' room as he must talk about the journey arrangements)

Mr Carter: Not so fast, I need to have a word with y'all. Ya ain't in any trouble at all, I just wanna talk 2u about how we are gonna get to that house in South Nuneaton.

(the quartet sit down on the dinin' table and Mr Carter tells the children about how they will be gettin' to the Odedaras' house)

Mr Carter: This is how we will be gettin' to the Odedaras' house in South Nuneaton – we will be takin' the Bus Routes 138 or 162 from here to Bromley South or Beckenham, the Bus Routes 208, 261, 320 or 336 from Bromley South to Catford or Lewisham or the Bus Route 54 from Beckenham to Catford or Lewisham and the Bus Routes 136, 171 or 436 from Catford or Lewisham to South Nuneaton. Before ya ask me why we are takin' buses, I am not keen to drive although my car is quite old and it frequently malfunctions and breaks down. It's a blue Kia ev3 made in Early 2023 with fabric black seats. The reason I was given that car was because my Ford Transit minibus from 2020 broke down back in January 23rd 2023 when I was trying to head home from Aldi and I was listening to Capital on FM 95.8. I am considerin' changin' that car to a Skoda Kamiq that was made this year this August, because I would like a newer car that does not malfunction at all.

Arimyriah: I don't like non-London buses.

Mr Carter: Er, don't be sayin' that about non-London buses Arimyriah. By the way, ya can now go get changed.

Narrator: The children went to their adults' bedroom and got changed out of their school uniform.

Arimyriah: I am removin' my black school shoes, my white socks, my red cardigan, and my summer dress that has pink and white checks. I am now wearin' my light pink socks, my dark pink trousers, my dark pink long-sleeved shirt with white spots and my best pink jacket. I am also wearin' a pair of pink trainers on my two feet.

Arigbeniri: I am removin' my black school shoes, my gray socks, my red sweatshirt, my grey trousers and my white short-sleeved shirt. I am now wearin' a green long-sleeved

shirt, my best khaki trousers, my beloved computer socks and my beloved black leather jacket. I am wearin' a pair of tank brown trainers on my two feet.

Narrator: The Adkikari siblings went to show Grandma, Mom, Rochelle and Mr Carter what they were wearin' out to Bible Study.

(They sprint out of their bedroom and into the sittin' room where the four adults are waiting)

Grandma: Children ya look glamorous.

Mom: Very perfect and beautiful.

Mr Carter: I agree with ya Taryn. Now, macaroni and cheese is callin' ur names children.

Narrator: The four children went into the uncomfortable kitchen to collect their food. They were eatin' macaroni and cheese with with chicken strips and sprinkled with cheddar cheese. Arimyriah's food was on a pink plate and Arigbeniri's food was on a green plate.

Adhikari siblings (with bliss): THX a lot. (They go to the livin' room's dinin' table in the livin' room and tuck in)

Grandma (puttin' light blue, orange, pink and green plastic cups on the table): Children, I have put cups with ur food. Do ya want apple or orange juice?

Adhikari siblings: Apple please.

(Grandma pours some apple juice into the children's cups)

Adkihari siblings: THX a lot.

Narrator: The children tucked into their meal lookin' excited to go to a place in the London Borough of Southwark in South Inner London.

(when the children have finished their lunches, they take their plates to the kitchen and put them in the sink)

Narrator: After the children had finished eating, Mr Carter called them into the children's room for another family meeting. It had a bigger double bed, two bedside cabinets two white wardrobes, a window with violet curtains and two chests of drawers with four levels. This time it was regardin' the rules of when they stepped out to the house to go to South Nuneaton. The rules were for everybody.

(the children enter the room and sit on the double bed; Mr Carter is already wearin' his black Lacoste sleeveless jacket)

Mr Carter: Hello children, these are the rules when we step out of here and proceed to the Odedaras' house in South Nuneaton. Always stay close to me, no running, cross the road safely, no violence and on top of that, no misbehavin' on the bus and causing us to get kicked out of that route. Behave urself, refrain from takin' too much food and resist throwin' tantrums when we are in the house. Do ya understand?

The Adhikari siblings: Yes, we do understand.

Mr Carter (joyfully): Yee-ha! Let's giddy up and see Philip, William and Ruth.

(Mr Carter unlocks the front door and the children follow him outside the maisonette, they walk downstairs and go to the nearest bus stop)

Mr Carter: What bus do we take from here?

Arimyriah: Bus Route 28 goin' towards St Margaret's Bus Station.

Mr Carter: Okay Arimyriah.

(The trio sits on a bus stop and wait for bus 28, they must wait for fifteen minutes)

Narrator: After the long wait bus 28 eventually came and the girl, boy and one thirty-two-year-old man got on desperately.

Arimyriah (average decibel of talking): I love buses.

Arigbeniri: So, do I.

Mr Carter: I like driving, almost as much as takin' Transport for London's buses.

Narrator: When the bus was almost where it terminated, the children were happier.

(the bus comes to a halt and an old woman gets off and two men and one child gets on the single-decker bus)

Arimyriah: We're almost at St Margaret's Bus Station.

Narrator: When the bus gotta St Margaret's Bus Station, not only Arigbeniri, Arimyriah, and Mr Carter got off, as did the other people! As Bus Route 28 terminated at St Margaret's Bus Station.

Narrator: When the children and Mr Carter got off bus 28, they did not wait for another bus as bus 158 was waitin' gallantly like a stallion horse at the bus stop. It said "St Margaret's Bus Station" although it was goin' towards Nuneaton.

Mr Carter: Children, The Bus Route 158 is here so let's go inside.

All four children (extremely excited): Great we like bus 54!

Arigbeniri: F*** sake.

Mr Carter (shocked): 4 what?! Did you just swear in here?

Arigbeniri (timid): No.

Mr Carter (pissed off): DO NOT LIE TO ME!!

Narrator: Taylor dragged himself to the seat next to the mixed-raced boy, then the bus started movin' to Lewisham.

(the front doors close)

Mr Carter (gettin' more pissed off): That lyin' and swearin' GOTTA stop!

(The front door closes)

Mr Carter: The bus is in motion so we must wait.

(The triosits at the five blue back seats with orange and red 'beachballs' in ascendin' age order - Arigbeniri sits on the first seat, Arimyriah sits on the second seat, and Mr Carter sits on the third seat)

Narrator: When the bus was at The Crescent Bus Station, Arigbeniri pressed the nearest bus bell

Mr Carter: We must get off bus 158 now.

(when the quintet gets off bus 158, Mr Carter calls a taxi to get to CV10 9JD. it arrives about 20 minutes after Mr Carter called the taxi - it is a black Citroen Relay made in 2022)

Mr Carter (in a neutral voice): The Taxi is here so hop on!

The Adhikari siblings (the loudest that it disturbs everyone in Europe, Asia and Africa): YES, IT'S THE TAXI!

Mr Carter: Reduce ur voices please.

Narrator: When the trio entered on the taxi, Arigbeniri sits in the front and changes the radio from BBC Radio 6 Music to Hits Radio UK (DAB).

Ethan: Would you plz sit in the back?

Mr Carter (in a firm voice): Arigbeniri; sit in the back

(Arigbeniri reluctantly does so)

Narrator: During the taxi ride; the Adhikari siblings play on their phones

Ethan: I need to make a stopover at Stoke Golding

Narrator: the taxi driver stops at Stoke golding to pick up the Stoke Golding (Formerly the Newington Green) family

The Stoke Golding (formerly Newington-Green) family: Hello everybody.

Everybody (excitedly): Hello Karin, Tyler, Ginger, Harry and Rene. And happy sixteenth birthday Tyler!

Tyler: Thank you everybody!

Mr Carter: HITS?! HITS?! I don't like Hits; Can I have Capital on?!

Ethan: Your wish is my command (he changes the radio from Hits Radio to Capital UK)

Narrator: Everyone was sittin' quietly and behaving.

Arigbeniri: I like Capital!

Karin: I can see BP, Uttoxeter Road

Rene: Karin, Stoke-On-Trent is far away.

Karin: Because my son Tyler has turned sixteen today, I have a birthday cake with light green icing, and it says 'Happy sixteenth birthday Tyler' for us to share at the Odedaras' house.

Narrator: When they were approachin' the Odedaras' house, the Adhikaris, the Stoke Goldings and Mr Carter lined up to get off the bus.

Everyone: Thank ya, driver.

Ethan: You're welcome!

(The taxi departs, and the six children and two adults walked to the Odedaras' house, it is just a stone throw)

Karin: Children, we are gonna see the Odedaras, Mr Carter and I want ya on ur best behaviour, am I clear?

All four children: Yes.

Narrator: When they arrived, Mr Carter pressed the bell and Mr Odedara (the father of the Odedara family) unlocked the door.

Mr Odedara: Good evening, everyone. How are ya doing?

Everyone: We are fine.

(The eight visitors go into the Odedaras' livin' room where they meet the Odedara siblings eighteen-year-old Ruth, fourteen-year-old William and eleven-year-old Philip)

All six children: Hello Ruth, William and Philip.

The Odedara siblings: Hey y'all!

Mr Odedara: How was the journey, Robert?

Narrator: Mr Carter related the story of the terrible bus journey to Mr Odedara. Then Mr Carter, Karin and the six children followed each other to the Odedaras' kitchen where the Odedaras' mother Mrs Odedara was preparin' a vegetarian lasagna. She was makin' it from scratch.

(Mrs Odedara cooks garlic, onion, pesto, mushrooms, spinach, spring onion, green chilli, red bell peppers, diced tomato in a juice, peas, asparagus, chicken strips and cheese, gets some cheddar cheese, some precooked mincemeat, broccoli, green beans, eggplant, parmesan, and some tomato sauce, puts them in an ovenproof dish with lid and inserts it into the oven. Then she gets some salmon, squeezes it with lime juice, cuts some ginger and adds it to the salmon and puts the fish in the oven to cook)

Rene: What is for dinner tonight, Mrs Odedara?

Mrs Odedara: Vegetarian lasagna with garlic bread and salmon with lime and ginger.

Mr Carter (in a neutral voice): Come on children, let us go to the sittin' room and let Ruth's mommy get on with her cookin' please.

All six children: Okay.

Narrator: Rene, Harry, Ginger, Tyler, Arigbeniri, Arimyriah, and followed Mr Carter to the livin' room where Ruth, William and Philip were watchin' television on the Odedaras' LG television.

Arigbeniri (desperately): Can I watch some television please, please, please, please, PLEASE? (his voice gets louder)

(Ruth hesitates but agrees to let the visitors watch some TV)

Ruth (she takes deep breaths): Yes, ya may but just for fifteen minutes because we will start at half past seven and now it is quarter past.

Narrator: Arigbeniri was half happy and half unhappy because he was watchin' TV but just for a quarter of an hour. It was not much fun! But watchin' TV for fifteen minutes was better than Ruth not allowin' him, let alone the others to watch the TV at all.

(he switches the TV to YouTube and watches some funny videos)

Narrator: At half past seven on the dot, Ruth told Arigbeniri...

Ruth: Sorry Arigbeniri, it is time to turn off the television, the bible study is about to start. (she gives Arigbeniri the LG remote)

(Arigbeniri reluctantly switches off the television)

Mr Carter: Arigbeniri...

Karin (sternly): Ya had limited TV time. Now it is time for the bible study to start.

The other seven children (givin' advice to Arigbeniri): Ya can play outside in the Odedaras' garden until Mrs Odedara calls us for dinner... and birthday cake!

Arigbeniri: Okay!

Narrator: At last, Arigbeniri stopped thinkin' about TV and happily played some basketball alongside his older sister Arimyriah, Tyler, Ginger, Harry and with help from her 37-year-old stepmother, Rene in the Odedaras' back garden. They were playin' outside until...

(Mrs Odedara comes to the Odedaras' garden to call the six children and Karin for food)

Mrs Odedara: Children, dinner!

Narrator: The six children and Karin raced to the kitchen to take their food. There was pasta bake, slices of garlic bread and some lime and ginger salmon. There was also a choice of red grape juice or lemonade.

Mrs Odedara: Help urselves to food and drink everyone.

Mr Carter (sternly): I'm gonna be seein' the quantity of ur food on ur plate children. So, ya must be very careful. (he takes some of the pasta bake, one slice of garlic bread and some of the salmon – he pours some red grape juice in a glass and goes to the sittin' room to eat)

Narrator: The children were so excited that they put a lot of the pasta bake, a slice of garlic bread each and lots of salmon on their plates. They took tall glasses and helped themselves to the drinks many times. Karin got Rene a violet plastic bowl, put some of the pasta bake in it alongside a small piece of the salmon. Then, they went to the Odedaras' dinin' table and tucked in.

(The six children eat happily but they hear Mr Carter's grumpy voice)

Mr Carter: Arigbeniri, what are ya doing? I said I am gonna see the quantity of ur food.

Mr Carter: The quantity of ur food is enough.

Rene: Thank ya, Mr Carter!

Mr Carter: You're welcome, Rene.

Narrator: Next, he checked Harry's plate of food, then Ginger's, then Tyler's (a.k.a the birthday boy), then Arigbeniri's then Arimyriah's and then Flora's. The quantity was exactly right.

Mr Carter: Arigbeniri, can ya bring ur plate please?

(Arigbeniri reluctantly gets his plate of food from the dinin' table)

Mr Carter: Arigbeniri, this is a little too much. Can ya get a bowl please?

Taylor: Okay! (he goes to the kitchen and gets a ceramic bowl and Mr Carter puts some of the pasta and salmon in it)

Mr Carter: Ya can now enjoy ur dinner!

All six children: YES!!! (They jump for joy and march back to the dinin' table)

Narrator: The six children were enjoyin' their dinner.

Karin (takes sixteen blue birthday candles from her bag, alongside blue numbers one and six candles to make the number 16 and matches): Now, let's sing happy birthday to my son.

Narrator: Karin put sixteen blue birthday candles on Tyler's blue cake with the rainbow and a number six candle, took a match, lit it and used it on the sixteen and a half candles.

The eleven people present (singing): Happy birthday 2u, happy birthday 2u, happy birthday dear Tyler, happy birthday 2u.

Ginger: Blow the candles out and make ur wish big brother.

(Tyler blows out his candles and makes a wish, Karin goes into the kitchen to get ten clean plates)

Narrator: The ten children were gonna share Tyler's birthday cake.

Karin: When I give ya a slice of cake, ya will say a number.

Rene: One.

Harry: Two.

Ginger: Three.

Tyler: Four.

Arigbeniri: Five.

Arimyriah: Six.

Philip: Seven.

William: Eight.

Ruth: Nine!

Narrator: When the nine children were tuckin' into their slices of birthday cake, Karin let Tyler and Arimyriah share the last slice as she did not want the last slice to go to waste.

(Mr Carter's phone rings)

Mr Carter: That is my phone.

Narrator: Mom was on the phone to ask how the day had been so far.

(he presses answer)

Mr Carter: Hello Mrs Adhikari.

Mom (on the phone, in her London accent): Hello Robert, are ya enjoyin' the trip so far?

Mr Carter: Mostly Taryn.

Rochelle (on the phone): Why not Robert?

Mr Carter: Because Arigbeniri said the F word.

Mom (on the phone): That ain't good. See ya later.

(she goes off the line)

Mr Carter: Now we are gonna go home.

Narrator: It was time for all ten visitors to go home.

(Mr Carter unlocks the front door of the Odedaras' house)

Mr Carter: Everyone, it is time to go now.

(Karin, Mr Carter, Taylor, Flora, Arimyriah, Arigbeniri, Tyler, Ginger, Harry and Rene exit the house)

All six children (loudest of all): BYE!

The Odedaras: Goodbye everybody. (Mr Odedara locks the door)

Narrator: The eight people were waitin' whilst Mr Carter and Karin call cabs for them to take to their homes.

(both taxis approaches the eight people waitin' on the outside of the Odedaras')

Everyone: Our taxis are here.

Narrator: The Stoke Golding family's taxi was a white Skoda Octavia from 2017 whilst Mr Carter and the Adhikari siblings' taxi was a blue Toyota RAV4 from 2019

Mr Carter: Bye Stoke Golding Family!

The Stoke Golding (formerly Newington-Green) family: Bye (they get into their taxi)

Narrator: Ahhhh, peace at last on the Adhikari's taxi. Nobody had rows nor fell out. For once, the quintet enjoyed a bus ride in peace.

Mom: Hello Mr Carter.

Mr Carter (in a kind voice): Hi Rochelle and Mrs Adhikari.

Narrator: In house 40, Mr Carter told the the Adhikari's Mom about the bus and taxi journey to and from the Odedaras'. He also told her about Arimyriah not bein' reluctant to go upstairs and told Rochelle about Arigbeniri's behaviour on Bus Routes 28. Mom beamed at Arimyriah and scolded Arigbeniri

Mom (beaming): I am so proud of both of ya. I am particularly proud of ya Arimyriah, especially because even though ya dislike goin' upstairs on London's double-decker buses, ya kept that thought to urself and went there. (she kisses her daughter on the right cheek and her tone changes) ARIGBENIRI, I HEARD YOU SWORE ON BUS 28; HOW DARE YOU HAVE THE AUDACITY TO SWEAR ON PUBLIC TRANSPORT!!

Narrator: To prepare for bed, the children put on their pyjamas, had hot chocolate and a chocolate chip muffin, brushed their teeth and Mom read them a bedtime story dubbed 'A little fairy magic' to them in their room before driftin' off to sleep. I wonder what they would dream of.

THE END